

Claims:

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1. A wire belt comprising:
a plurality of wire strands, each of said plurality of wire strands being
linked with at least one adjacent wire strand in said wire belt, each of said
5 plurality of wire strands comprising:
a first end and a second end; and
a plurality of linking portions between said first end and said
second end, said plurality of linking portions being linked with respective linking
portions in said at least one adjacent wire strand so as to form a plurality of joints
10 in said wire belt, said plurality of linking portions including a compound Z-shape
formation.
2. The wire belt of claim 1 wherein said undulating shape is a
substantially modified square wave.
3. The wire belt of claim 1 wherein said compound Z-shape formation
15 includes an upper member, a compound angle diagonal member, and a lower
member.
4. The wire belt of claim 3 wherein said compound angle diagonal
member includes a first member, a central member extending therefrom, and a
second member extending from the central member.

5. The wire belt of claim 4 wherein said first member and said central member form a first included angle and wherein said central member and said second member form a second included angle.

6. The wire belt of claim 5 wherein said first included angle and said second included angle are substantially the same.

7. The wire belt of claim 6 wherein said first included angle and said second included angle are defined by an angle greater than ninety degrees and less than one hundred eighty degrees.

8. The wire belt of claim 7 wherein said first included angle and said second included angle are approximately one hundred sixty degrees.

9. The wire belt of claim 3 wherein said upper member and said compound angle diagonal member define an upper included angle and compound angle diagonal member and said lower member define a lower included angle.

10. The wire belt of claim 9 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are substantially equal.

11. The wire belt of claim 10 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are between approximately seventy degrees and approximately one hundred and ten degrees.

5 12. The wire belt of claim 11 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are approximately ninety degrees.

13. The wire belt of claim 7 wherein said upper member and said compound angle diagonal member define an upper included angle and compound angle diagonal member and said lower member define a lower included angle.

10 14. The wire belt of claim 13 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are substantially equal.

15. The wire belt of claim 14 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are between approximately seventy degrees and approximately one hundred and ten degrees.

15 16. The wire belt of claim 15 wherein said upper included angle and said lower included angle are approximately ninety degrees.

17. The wire belt of claim 1 wherein said joints define an interlocking parallel hinge having substantially no space between said linking portions.

18. The wire belt of claim 1 wherein said first end and said second end of each of said wire strands forms an edge loop, said edge loops being curved in a third dimension so as to define a generally U-shape.

19. A wire belt comprising:
a plurality of wire strands, each of said plurality of wire strands being linked with at least one adjacent wire strand in said wire belt, each of said plurality of wire strands comprising:
a first end and a second end; and
a plurality of linking portions between said first end and said second end, said plurality of linking portions being linked with respective linking portions in said at least one adjacent wire strand so as to form a plurality of joints in said wire belt, said plurality of linking portions including a compound angle diagonal member having an upper portion, an angled central portion, and a lower portion, said upper portion and said angled central portion defining a first included angle with said lower portion and said angled central portion defining a second included angle, said first and second included angles being greater than approximately ninety degrees and less than approximately one hundred eighty degrees.

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20. A method of forming a wire belt comprising:
- providing a plurality of wire strands,
- bending each of said plurality of wire strands and forming a plurality of linking portions between a first end and a second end, said first end
- 5 including a first edge loop and said second end including a second edge loop;
- bending each of said plurality of wire strands to form a third dimensional bend;
- linking said plurality of linking portions with respective linking portions in at least one adjacent wire strand so as to form a wire belt of a
- 10 predetermined length.